

Attorney Docket No. 108298610US
Disclosure No. MUEI-0528

Amendments to the Claims:

Following is a complete listing of the claims pending in the application, as amended:

1-51. (Cancelled)

52. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling reproduction of an audiovisual work comprising:

receiving rating input comprising a selection of one of a plurality of ratings choices;

reviewing an audiovisual work on a first storage medium to determine if the first storage medium includes a rated version of the audiovisual work which bears a predetermined relationship to the rating input; and

if the first storage medium includes the rated version, playing the first-rated version; or

if the first storage medium does not include the rated version:

accessing a database stored on a second storage medium, the database containing for each of the plurality of ratings choices, a secondary database comprising information identifying at least a portion of a scene of the work having an assigned content ratings level which bears a predetermined relationship to the ratings choice input; and reproducing scenes of the work in accordance with the at least a portion of a scene identified information in the secondary database corresponding to the rating input.

53. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein the act of accessing includes reading the database from the second storage medium.

54. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 52, wherein the second storage medium comprises a storage medium of a server and the act of accessing comprises establishing a connection to the server and downloading the secondary

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database corresponding to the rating input into a controller which controls reproduction of the work, the controller using the information in the downloaded secondary database to control reproduction of the work.

55. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein the act of accessing includes establishing a connection to an Internet server, whereby the connection is an Internet connection.

56. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein the act of accessing includes establishing a dial-up connection.

57. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein the act of accessing includes accessing a database containing data indicating which scenes of the work are to be reproduced.

58. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein the act of accessing includes accessing a database containing data indicating which scenes of the work are not to be reproduced.

59. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein receiving the rating input comprises receiving a screener's content ratings level.

60. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 59, wherein the act of accessing includes accessing a database containing information identifying those scenes having a content ratings level which is less than or equal to the screener's content ratings level.

61. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 59, wherein the act of accessing includes accessing a database containing information identifying those scenes having a content ratings level which is greater than the screener's content ratings level.

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62. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 52, wherein receiving the rating input comprises receiving a content ratings level from a screener.

63. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling reproduction of an audiovisual work on a playback apparatus including a controller, comprising:

providing to the playback apparatus an audiovisual work prerecorded by a source on a first storage medium;

establishing a connection to a server containing a database that is stored on a server storage medium that is different from the first storage medium, the database containing, for each of a plurality of ratings choices, a secondary database comprising information identifying a relationship at least a portion of a scene of the work and the ratings choice having a content ratings level assigned by a screener who is a party other than the source, between at least a portion of the work and the ratings choice;

receiving ratings input specifying a ratings choice;

downloading the database into the controller of the playback apparatus the secondary database associated with the ratings choice specified in the ratings input; and

reproducing scenes of the work with playback apparatus, the controller using the information in the downloaded secondary database to control reproduction of the work.

64. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 63, wherein the server is an Internet server and the act of establishing a connection comprises establishing an Internet connection.

65. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 63, wherein the act of downloading the secondary database comprises downloading a database containing information identifying those scenes having a content ratings level which is less than or equal to a playback content ratings level.

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66. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 63, wherein the act of downloading the secondary database comprises downloading a database containing information identifying those scenes having a content ratings level which is greater than a playback content ratings level.

67. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 63, wherein the act of downloading the secondary database comprises downloading a database containing data indicating which scenes of the work are to be reproduced.

68. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 63, wherein the act of downloading the secondary database comprises downloading a database containing data indicating which scenes of the work are not to be reproduced.

69. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 63, ~~further comprising wherein receiving a playback content~~ the ratings level input by comprises receiving the ratings level input from a viewer.

70. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 69, wherein the act of downloading the secondary database comprises downloading a database containing information identifying those scenes having a content ratings level which is less than or equal to the playback content ratings level.

71. (Currently Amended) A method as in claim 69, wherein the act of downloading the secondary database comprises downloading a database containing information identifying those scenes having a content ratings level which is greater than the playback content ratings level.

72. (Previously Presented) A method as in claim 69, wherein the viewer is the screener.

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73. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for controlling reproduction of an audiovisual work, the apparatus comprising:

an audiovisual reproduction unit adapted to read from a prerecorded audiovisual medium an audiovisual work prerecorded by a source on the prerecorded audiovisual medium;

a ratings input adapted to receive information assigning an assigned content ratings level to at least a portion of the audiovisual work and to receive a playback content ratings level input by a viewer;

a connection to a server storage medium that is separate from the prerecorded audiovisual medium, the server storage medium including a database ~~containing information identifying portions of the audiovisual work which have an assigned content ratings level which bears a predetermined relationship to the playback content ratings level; and~~

~~and a controller coupled to the audiovisual reproduction unit, the viewer input, and the connection to the server, the controller being programmed to a)~~ store the assigned content ratings level in the database via the connection to the server storage medium and b) control the audiovisual reproduction unit to reproduce only the portions of the audiovisual work which have an assigned content ratings level which bears ~~the a~~ predetermined relationship to the playback content ratings level.

74. (Canceled)

75. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 73 wherein the server storage medium is on an Internet server and the connection to the server storage medium comprises an Internet connection.

76. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as in claim 73, wherein the database contains ratings level information for all scenes of the work.